

Message Text

SECRET

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20

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 MC-02 ACDA-05 /057 W

----- 007263

O 010741Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4915

INFO SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

CINCSAC OFFUTT AFB NE IMMEDIATE

CINCPACAF HICKAM AB HI IMMEDIATE

13TH AF CLARK AB RP IMMEDIATE

COMUSMACTHAI BKK THAI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BANGKOK 9977

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, MILL, PFOR, SOPN, TH

SUBJ: US FORCE REDUCTIONS IN THAILAND

REF: A. CINCPAC PA/LNO BKK 300645Z MAY 75

B. SECDEF 302201Z MAY 75

C. SECDEF 311903Z MAY 75

D. CINCPACAF 311931Z MAY 75

E. CINCPAC 312238Z MAY 75

1. REFTEL D DESCRIBES TECHNICAL PROBLEMS THAT IMPACT ON
WITHDRAWALS. EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO OVERCOME ANY
ADMINISTRATIVE IMPEDIMENTS TO THE PROMPT WITHDRAWAL OF B-52S,
F-111S AND THE CLOSURE OF UBON.

2. PRIOR TO REFTEL D, WE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT
MOVEMENT OF B-52S COULD BEGIN VERY SHORTLY AFTER
COMPLETION OF CONSULTATION WITH RTG, AND BE CARRIED
OUT WITHIN 48 HOURS. SIMILARLY, THERE APPEARED TO BE
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A DESIRE FOR FAST OUT-MOVEMENT OF F-111S. WE SET A MEETING

OF THE THE THAI-US COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE EARLIEST TIME THAT COULD BE ARRANGED WITH THE THAI, 0700Z JUNE 2.

3. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE BEEN VERY CAREFUL TO SAY "ABOUT JUNE 30" TO AVOID SETTING THAT DATE IN CONCRETE AS COMPLETION OF CURRENT DRAWDOWN, THERE IS PUBLIC EXPECTATION THAT THERE WILL BE SOME DEPARTURES DURING JUNE.

4. THEREFORE, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT AT LEAST SOME B-52S AND F-111S MOVE OUT BY JUNE 30 EVEN IF THE REMAINDER GO ASAP AFTER JUNE 30. AS LONG AS PERSONNEL FOLLOW WITHIN A REASONABLY SHORT TIME, IT IS NOT ESSENTIAL THAT THEY ALL BE OUT BY JUNE 30.

5. AT MEETING OF THAI-US COORDINATING COMMITTEE JUNE 2 WE WILL NEED TO HAVE STARTING DATES ON REMOVAL OF B-52S AND F-111S, AND THEY SHOULD NOT BE LATER THAN JUNE 30 EVEN IF COMPLETION DATES ARE THEREAFTER. UNLESS WE ARE GIVEN NEW DATES, WE WILL HAVE TO USE AS STARTING DATES JUNE 6 FOR THE B-52S AND JUNE 18 FOR THE F-111S, AND PLAN MEDIA VISITS ACCORDINGLY.

6. IT MUST BE BORNE IN MIND THAT THIS IS NOT A UNILATERAL SHOW. THE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENTS AFTER THE THAI-US MEETING JUNE 2 WILL COME FROM THE THAI SIDE, AND UNLESS WE ARE ABLE TO OFFER THEM A REASONABLE SCRIPT, THEY WILL WRITE THEIR OWN. IN CONVERSATION WITH GEN. KRIANGSAK, THAI CHAIRMAN OF THE THAI-US COORDINATING COMMITTEE, ON MAY 31 THE POLITICAL-MILITARY COUNSELOR LEARNED THAT KRIANGSAK PLANS TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER THE JUNE 2 MEETING. WE MUST REDUCE THE RISK OF DISTORTION BY PROVIDING HIM WITH AS CLEAR AND PRECISE A SCRIPT AS POSSIBLE RELATING TO THE REDUCTION.

7. AT THE MEETING OF THE THAI-US COORDINATING COMMITTEE JUNE 2, WE WILL TABLE A PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT PER REFTTEL C, DELETING WORDS "THIS MONTH" FROM FIRST SENTENCE PARA 1 AND USING JUNE 6 AND JUNE 18 AS STARTING DATES FOR REMOVAL OF B-52S AND F-111S, RESPECTIVELY,

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IN PARA 3 UNLESS OTHER DATES (WHICH SHOULD BE NLT 30 JUNE) ARE PROVIDED.

WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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